

**YAKAMA NATION HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
JOB ANNOUNCEMENT**



Announcement # 2015-122 **Issue Date:** 07-09-15 **Closing Date:** 07-22-15

Public Defender
Office of Public Defenders
Department of Justice Services
Hourly Wage: \$33.37/Regular/Full-Time

Employee serves as attorney for the Yakama Nation Public Defenders office and is responsible for providing professional, legal assistance to Tribal member client in Tribal, State, and Federal Court systems or administrative agencies as assigned by the Lead Attorney-Program Manager, with an emphasis on civil matters. Employee is responsible for providing a full ranges of legal services to Tribal members in areas of civil, family and Federal Indian Law matters, and in criminal matters as assigned by the Lead Attorney-Program Manager. Services include legal research, evaluations of potential cases, analysis and preparation of accepted cases, motions, brief, hearings, trials and appeals. Representation will include all stages of civil proceedings through disposition and review hearings until the attorney withdraws. Representation in criminal matter will include all stages of criminal proceedings from arraignment through disposition. The attorney may be appointed by the court(s) as Guardian Ad Litem in matters involving Tribal members deemed incompetent or for those persons placed in protective custody.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

- Knowledge of standard court procedures, evidence rules, and application of legal principles relative to practicing law.
- Knowledge of Tribal laws, Tribal regulations, and Tribal government organization.
- Knowledge of applicable Federal and State laws and regulations.
- Knowledge of Yakama Tribal traditions and customs as they may pertain to Tribal Court practices.
- Knowledge of law library research methods and techniques to interpret and explain applicable constitutional provisions, statutes, regulations, case law, and precedents.
- Ability to maintain close working relationships.
- Ability to communicate effectively both verbally and in written form.
- Ability to gain and maintain confidence of clients and professional staff of the Court(s) and other legal systems.
- Ability to be culturally sensitive to traditions and customs of the Yakama Nation.
- Ability to work under stress, independently handle hostile situations and sensitive information in a professional manner.
- Ability to maintain strict confidentiality.

General Recruiting Indicators:

- Graduation from an accredited School of Law with a Juris Doctor degree and six months of experience in Professional legal work or two years experience in Tribal legal office or Tribal Court prior to graduation.

Special Requirements:

- Required to pass a pre-employment drug and alcohol test.
- Must possess and maintain a valid Washington State Driver license and ability to obtain a Yakama Tribal Drivers Permit.
- Must sign a waiver to allow the Tribe to perform criminal background checks and must successfully pass an extensive criminal history background inquiry.
- Washington State Bar member preferred, and/or admittance to practice in another state with willingness to take the next Washington State Bar Association exam at own expense.
- Willingness to admission to practice law in the Yakama Tribal Court and other Tribal Courts, as necessary, upon hire.
- Sworn statement by candidate that his/her conduct or fitness to practice law has never been challenged in any jurisdiction; any felony convictions or extensive misdemeanor record.
- The incumbent must be admitted to practice of law in the State of Washington with work experience in public service law, poverty litigation and/or indigent defense or Indian law.
- Submission of official law school transcripts is optional.